Curious baby elephant



English

Story Book

Curious baby elephant

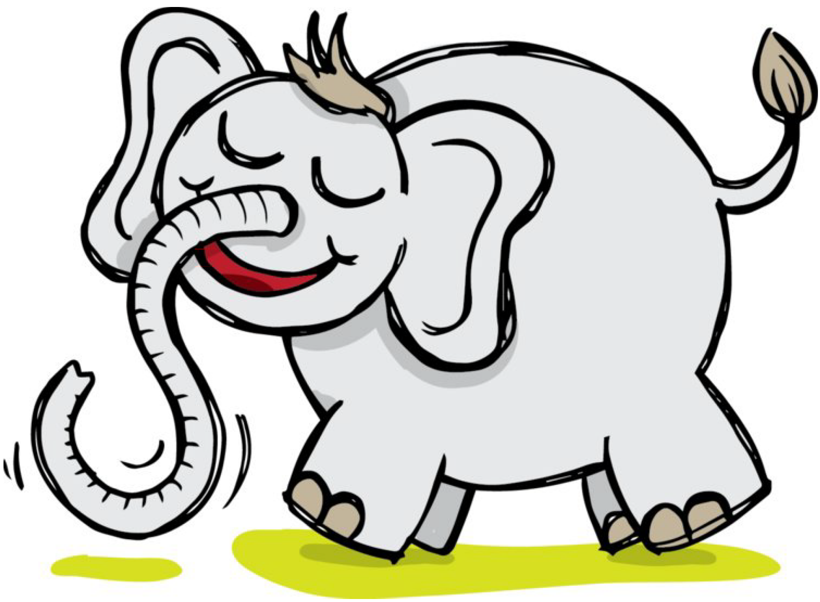
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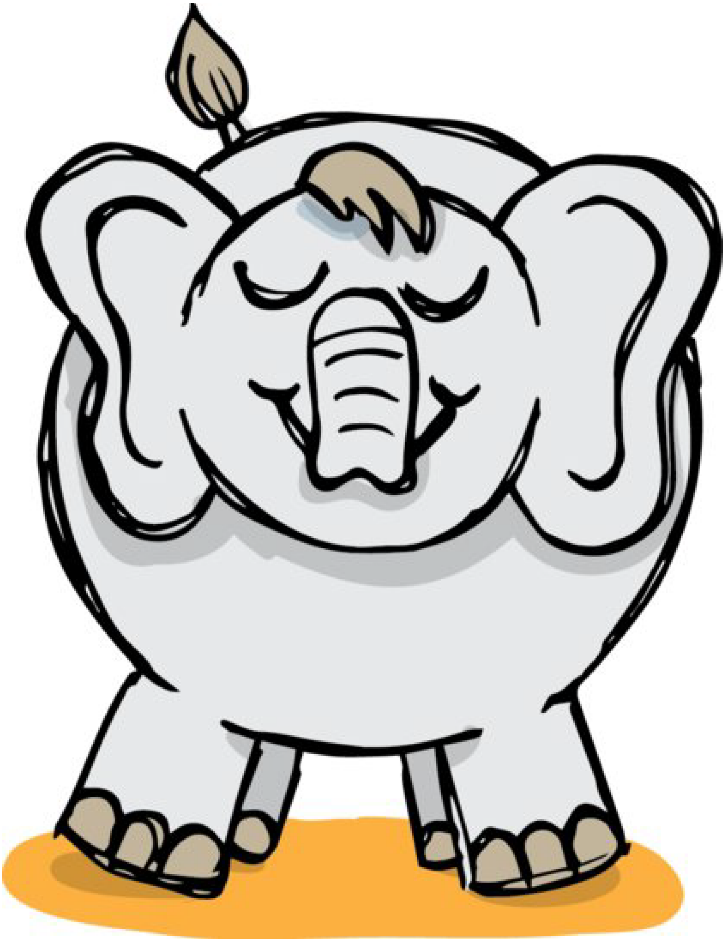
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English

Author - Judith Baker and Lorato Trok
Illustrations - Wiehan de Jager

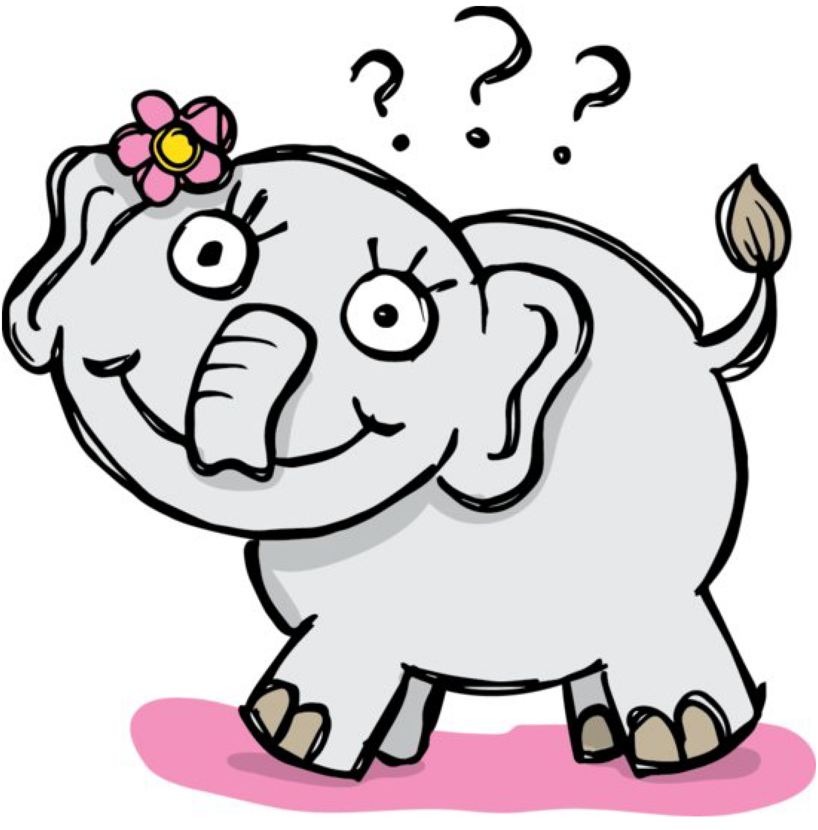
Everyone knows that the elephant has a very long nose.





But a long time ago, the elephant's nose was short and fat. Like a shoe in the middle of his face.

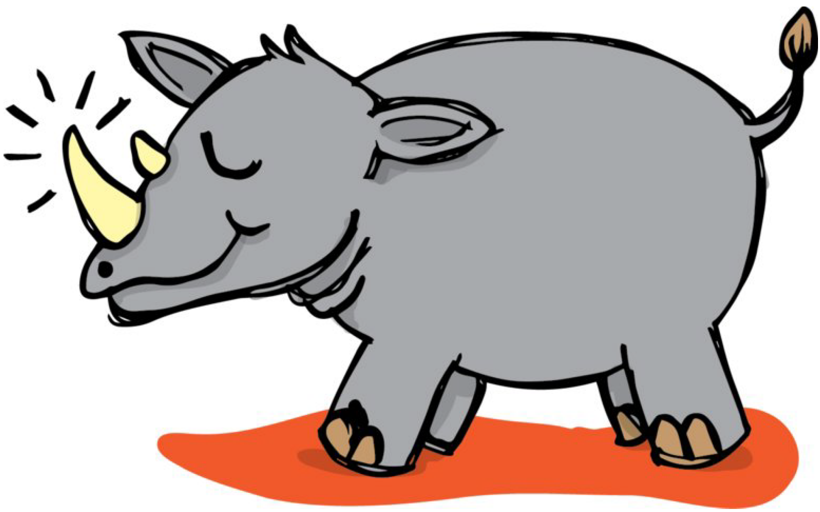
A curious baby elephant was born. She had a question for every animal.

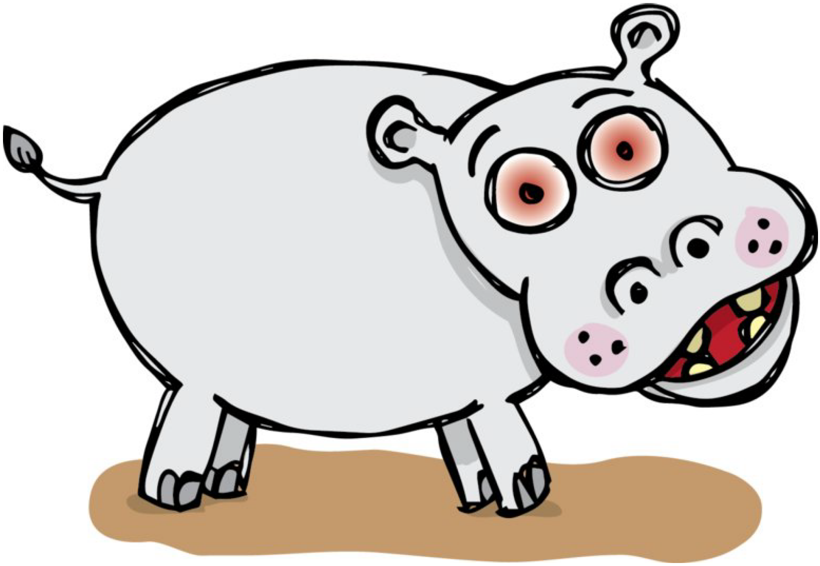




She was curious about Giraffe. “Why do you have a long neck?” she asked.

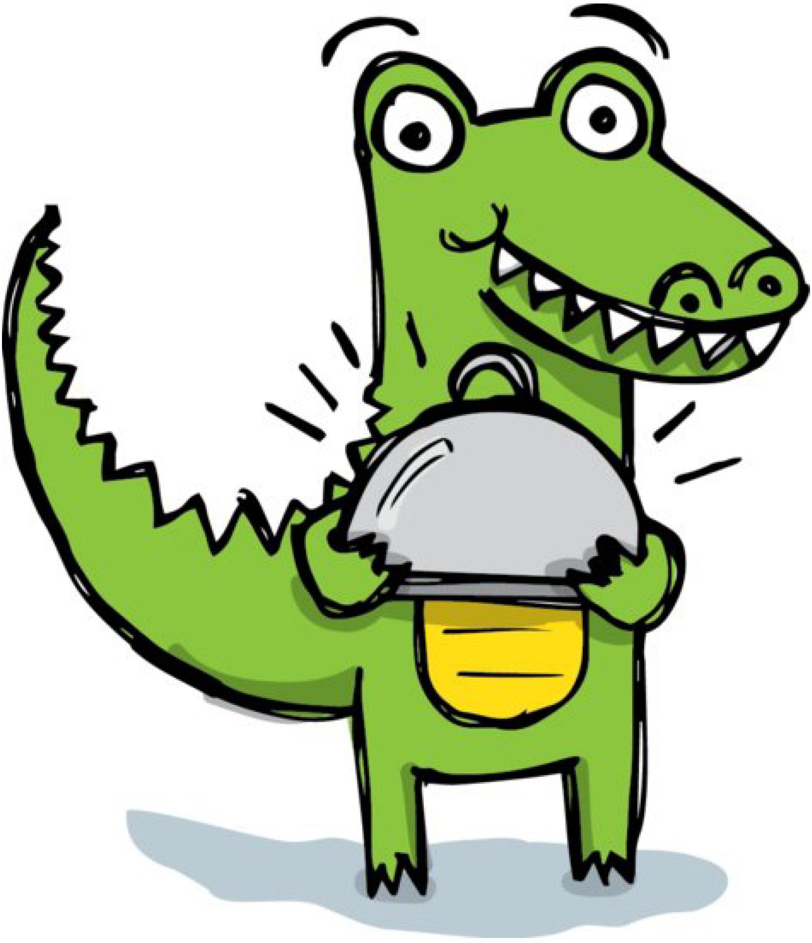
She was curious about Rhino. “Why does your horn have a sharp point?”

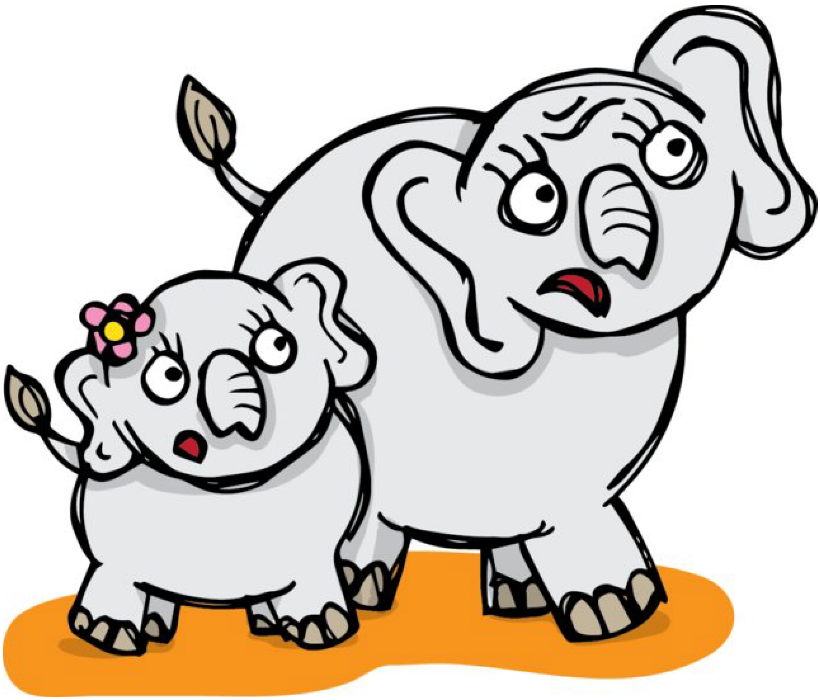




She was curious about Hippo. “Why do you have red eyes?” she asked.

And she was VERY curious about Crocodile. “What does Crocodile eat for dinner?”

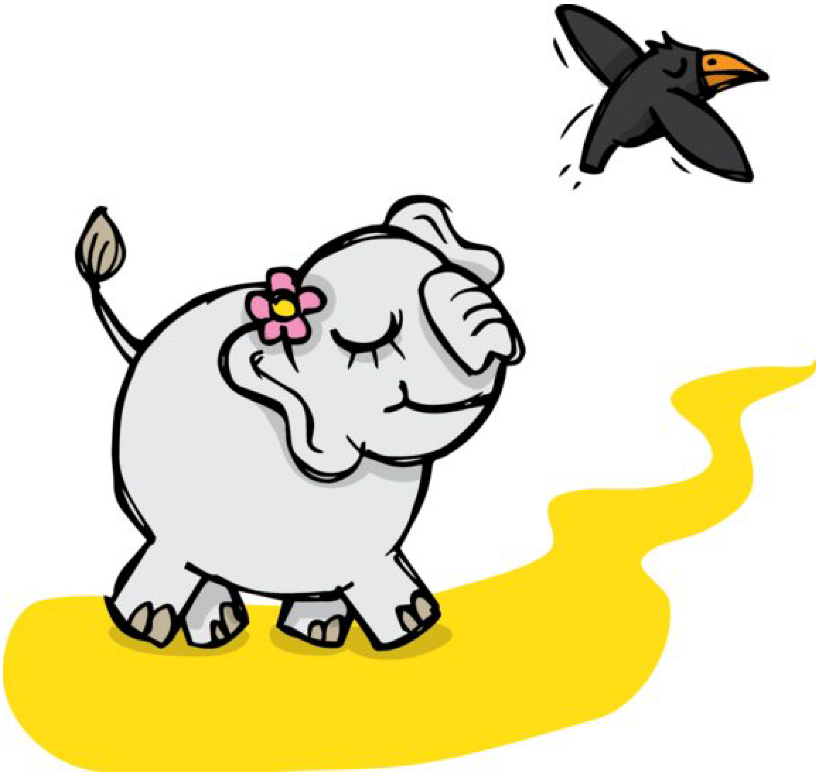




“Never ask a question like that!” said her mother. She walked off, frowning.

But clever Crow quickly said, “Follow me to the river. There you will see what Crocodile eats for dinner.”

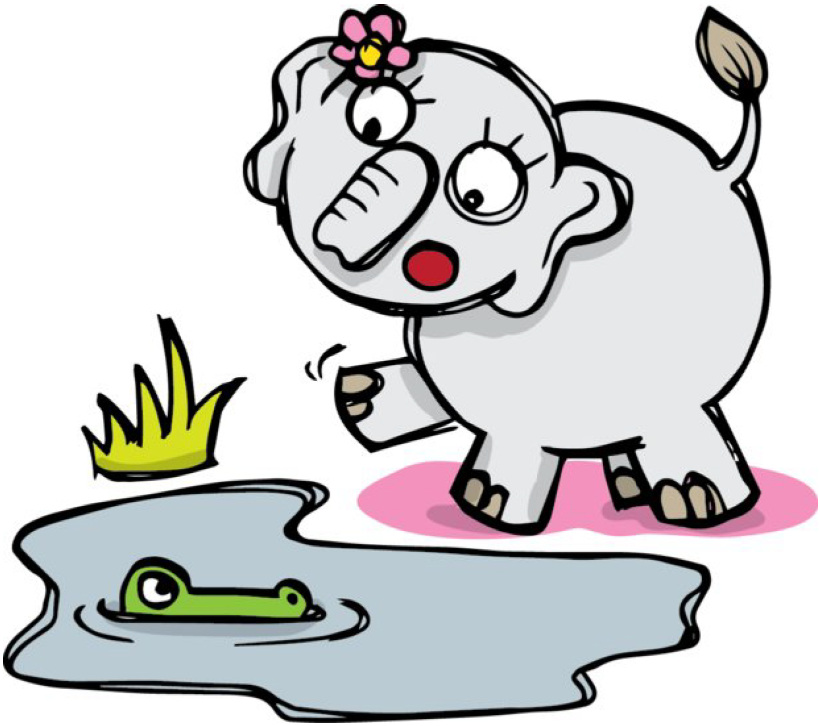




So Baby Elephant followed Crow all the way down to the river.

She pushed through the reeds and stood on the bank. She looked into the water. Where was Crocodile?





“Hello,” said a stone near the river bank. “Hello,” said Baby Elephant. “Perhaps you can tell me what Crocodile eats for dinner?”

“Bend down and I will tell you,” said the stone.

“Lower, lower...”

So Baby Elephant bent down lower, until...





“Snap!” Her nose was in the jaws of Crocodile.

“Crocodile will eat you for dinner!” squawked Crow.

Baby Elephant sat back on her strong legs and pulled, and pulled, and pulled.

But Crocodile did not let go.



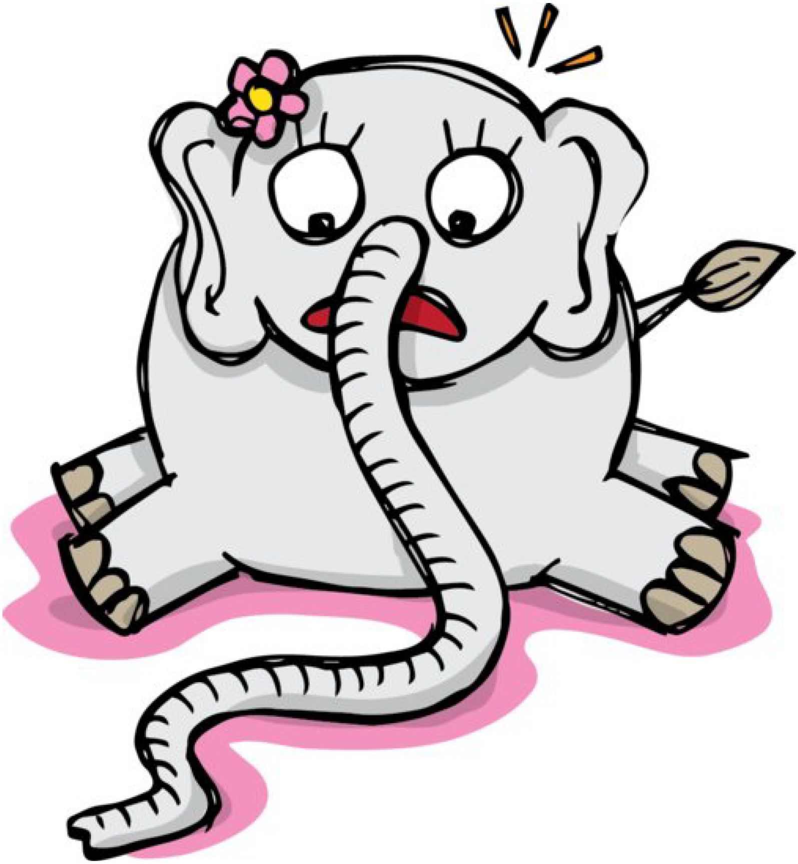


Baby Elephant’s nose stretched, and stretched, and stretched, until...

“Duuffff!” she fell on her back.

Cross at losing his dinner, Crocodile slithered back into the water.

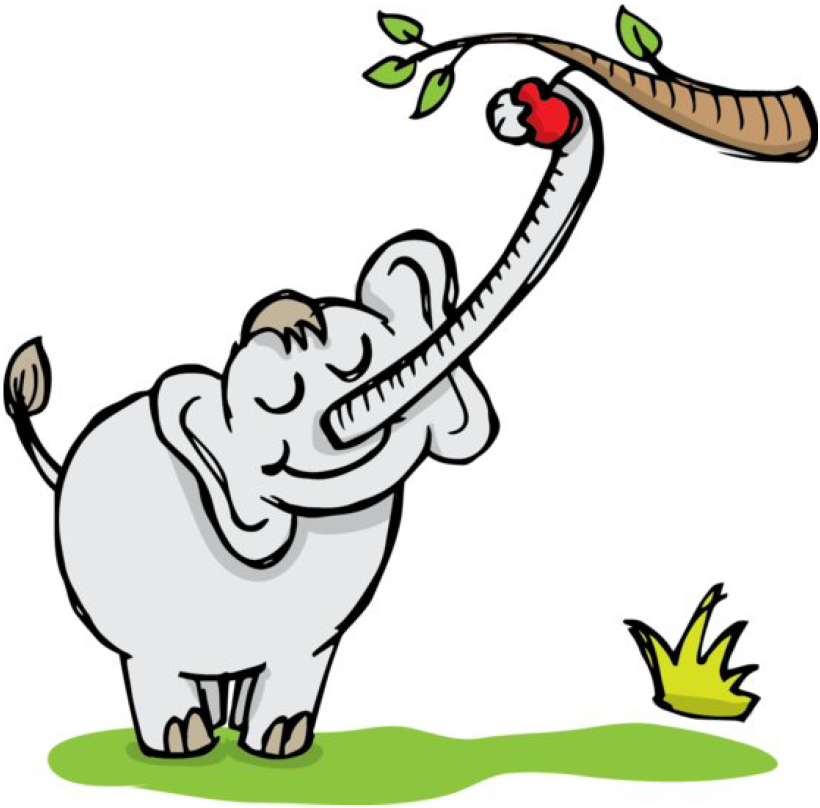




Baby Elephant looked at her nose.

She could not see where it ended!

It was so long she could pick fruit from high branches.





And shower herself with
water on a hot day.

And to this day, all elephants have very long and useful trunks.

